

## HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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## TARIFF REVISION.

Speaker Cannon's statement favoring an "honest revision" of the tariff—that is, a revision by its friends rather than its enemies—leads interest to the discussion of the subject by leading journals of the day as presented in symposium form by the Literary Digest. We quote:

As there is scarcely an industry in the country that is not affected directly or indirectly by the tariff, and as many think that the full tide of prosperity will not begin to flow in before this matter is settled, keen interest is naturally shown in the tariff-revision plans of the new Congress. It will be Republican by a good working majority in both branches, and the leaders are well known, so it is possible for the papers to make some pretty shrewd guesses as to how the work will be done. The pledge in the party platform has it that the Dingley schedules will be revised by a special session of the new Congress, to be convened immediately after the inauguration on March 4. During the remaining short session of the old Congress, this winter, no tariff legislation is looked for.

Irrespective of party, says the New York Commercial (Fin.), the people expect and demand very material reductions of many of the duties on imports. "A leading line of inquiry prior to actual legislation," it adds, "will of necessity be directed at those conditions which enable American manufacturers in certain lines to maintain prices in the domestic markets here in the United States higher than they ask of foreign buyers—the very ranket kind of discrimination against the home consumer." As an instance it cites the fact that American watches which bring \$75 in the home market may be bought for \$42.30 in England, Egypt, or Australia. "Business," The Commercial admits, "will of necessity be somewhat disturbed during the special session for tariff revision, but the session itself need not be long"—sixty days being suggested as ample time for the work.

Already a committee is giving hearings on the tariff, and according to a Washington dispatch to the New York Tribune (Rep.), there is a good prospect of getting new schedules in effect before the beginning of the next fiscal year on July 1. So optimistic is the tone of this dispatch that it goes on:

It is not too much to say that if all parties in both Houses of Congress display the same promptness in getting the tariff-revision program through as has been shown by the committees of Congress in the recess, it would be possible to perfect a revision of the tariff at the short session of Congress this winter, and thereby relieve the country from the necessity of a special session after Mr. Taft is inaugurated, and furnish to the business interests of the country immediate assurance that the doubts and difficulties incident to delay in adjusting new rates of complex tariff schedules would be reduced to a minimum, to the great advantage of capital and labor in the productive industries.

On the other hand, a number of papers point out that the reelection of Cannon, Dalzell, Payne, and other influential "stand-patters" puts a grave obstacle in the way of real tariff reform even in the special session. Although there is an organized movement to wrest the Speakership from Mr. Cannon, it is generally conceded that he will be reelected by a Republican caucus at the opening of the next Congress, and will consequently have the appointment of all committees of the House. Says the New York Journal of Commerce (Com.):

That there will be a revision of the tariff that is a real reform and will materially moderate the policy of protection, can not be expected from the continued control of legislation by the party of high protection under the virtual domination of the old "stand-pat crowd." It is one of the unfortunate results of the Bryan candidacy and its overwhelming defeat that the Republican party is strengthened in its position, and the wholesome influence of a vital and vigorous opposition will be lacking. The only good that we can look for from the promised tariff revision of 1909 is a discussion that may be more enlightening and stimulating than any that we have had in the past, when the protected interests have practically shaped the schedules to suit themselves and paid for the privilege. That may give a new direction to agitation and lead to reform later on.

"If there be any tricks in the way of keeping a promise to the ear and breaking it to the hope in which Chairman Payne's 'experts' may be deficient," remarks the Philadelphia Record (Dem.) with unveiled irony, "the shortcoming can be supplied by the Steel Trust through Representative John Dalzell, while the special committee under Chairman Mann has been engaged all summer in the discovery of a method of tariff revision that will not hurt the Lumber Trust and the Paper Trust."

Several Democratic papers suggest that if the revision next spring is not sincere and satisfactory, it will give the Democrats the needed issue to bring them back into power.

## THE IRWIN FLANK MOVEMENT.

The memorial in favor of the Irwin site which Judge Cooper dwells upon in his interview, was signed before the government condemned and bought the Mahuka site. Having then been weighed against other memorials and arguments and found wanting, the influence of that one should have ended. It is now like a record of the minority balloting of a jury before the verdict was reached. There is no sense in using it as a reason for a rehearing, least of all to justify a reversal of judgment. It does not bear on the new proposals.

That this musty memorial is now produced as the chief evidence of popular support of the wrong surreptitiously promoted at Washington, reveals weakness for the Irwin cause rather than strength. Why not a new memorial based upon the existing state of facts, if one could have been had? Why not a frank appeal to the people and to the business community, instead of a tense conspiracy of silence? Everything done in this matter suggests the fear that, if Honolulu were apprised of what was doing in its own concerns it would boil with indignation. And boil it will, or we mistake the temper of the town.

The case as it appears to us is this: Mr. Irwin has some unproductive land on Palace Square, a retired locality chosen by the King and Court of the monarchy and by the judiciary, for their quiet and comfort. It is about three blocks from the center of the white business activities of town and five from the oriental center; and in the tropics three to five blocks make a difference to people who have to walk. This property was offered the Federal Government for a public building under a call for bids; but a competing property on the exact edge of the white business district, the Mahuka block, made the acceptable bid and was chosen for the building site by an accredited representative of the United States and with the hearty approval of those who use a postoffice and custom house most. The government made the proviso, however, that a street should be put through the Mahuka tract to give the building a frontage. Citizens of Honolulu then subscribed \$20,000 for this purpose and the street was built. Owing to this improvement and to the prospect that the new thoroughfare, when it goes through to the waterfront, will be second to Fort St., the Mahuka site has become much more valuable than it was when the government bought it; and Mr. Irwin, who owns land on the proposed extension, wants to get hold of this site, for which a street has already been provided, just as any shrewd investor would. So he again offers his non-productive, out of the way holdings in exchange for it. His lawyer quietly goes to Washington and deals with an official who never was here but, being a friend of George R. Carter, who originally favored the Irwin site along Charles Mulford Robinson lines, believes that the Palace Square property is the only one worth considering—far more worthy of consideration than the majority wishes of Honolulu. The greatest secrecy is observed in the negotiation until it has gone as far as the Treasury department can carry it; whereupon Honolulu is coolly told that its wishes and its

rights have been bartered away to suit the ends of a real estate speculation.

It is possible that the law has been stretched out of shape to make this deal; but apart from that the Government as well as Honolulu has been badly outdone. First, the Mahuka site which an Assistant Secretary proposes to relinquish, has been bought and paid for and is immensely more valuable than the property offered in exchange. Secondly, citizens, trusting in the good faith of the United States in promising to build on the site it purchased, have spent \$20,000 in meeting the government's conditions; and now thanks to the apparent want of business sagacity in an Assistant Secretary, Washington has been committed to a course which the business interests of Honolulu can scarcely differentiate from fraud. Third, the government has been induced to take on a site which the business public and most of the people of the residential districts find inconvenient and to reject a site which it has already chosen as the best, than which there could be no more convenient one in town, nor one more likely to advance in value. All this puts the Federal Government in an unenviable light.

Now as to relative convenience! But one trolley road passes the Irwin property and this one, in seeking the business district, also passes the Mahuka site. The Alakea street branch line is a trifle nearer the Mahuka site than the Irwin block, while the main Nuuanu and Punahou lines are two blocks and a half from the Irwin property and but thirty yards from the Mahuka site. People coming in to the business section by any line could cover a postoffice on the Mahuka site in one trip but to reach the Irwin site they would have to make two trips. So there can be but one decision as to convenience and that is against the scheme imposed upon the Treasury department.

Judge Cooper represents Assistant Secretary Winthrop as having always been in favor of the Irwin or Palace Square site, and that he only completed the negotiations for the Mahuka site because he considered the Department bound by the Taylor contract. But if the Department felt itself bound by the Taylor contract before the government had paid over any money and before citizens had raised \$20,000 to comply with its requirement, why is the Department not still bound by it? What has occurred to release the obligation? In fact is not the Department under far greater obligations now than it was before the negotiations were completed?

The case of Irwin vs. Honolulu is so clearly one in which the rights of the city are being violated, that we look for an expression in favor of the purchased and accepted site, so direct, so vigorous and so convincing that Congress, which has the final say in this matter, cannot afford to ignore it.

The Emperor of Austria, the 60th year of whose accession to the throne is soon to be celebrated will go into history as one of the great statesmen of a time which has been exceedingly rich in world publicists. His Apostolic Majesty, as his ancient title reads, was born but nine years after Napoleon passed away at St. Helena and took the throne during the troublous times of 1848. The greatness of the man is civil, not military, though he was a brave soldier on occasion, if strangely unfortunate in his wars. To preserve the Austrian empire from foes without and quarrelsome races within and to make it survive the humiliation of lost battles; to build it up from the prostrate monarchy which lay so long under the heel of Napoleon into a power of the first rank, required a man of genius. This man was found in Francis Joseph I. Today he is the most imposing figure among European sovereigns; one who has endured the worst of personal afflictions without bitterness and borne the blame for many national woes without complaint; who has kept his serene dignity and poise through all, and never has lost the love or confidence of his subjects or the respect of his fellow sovereigns.

We fear that the Rev. Mr. McKeever was mixed in his chronology when he said that an evangelical Thanksgiving service "seventy-five or even fifty years" ago would have been preceded and followed by social drinking in the minister's study. So far as old Honolulu customs are concerned we risk nothing in saying that Mr. McKeever misconceives them. From the earliest coming of the missionaries the Protestant church set its face against strong drink. In New England, 150 years ago, rum was served at minister's meetings and was used without apology by clergy and laity alike, but we question whether such a custom has been in vogue there or in the middle States during the past hundred years. If it held forth longer in the West and South against the growing belief in total abstinence which brought on the Washingtonian movement, the fact has escaped the notice of such authorities as we have been able to consult.

It is not to be supposed that the whole of Punchbowl crater would be needed for a distributing reservoir, as a few acres of the upper part, properly cemented, would answer every need. The plan is to lift artesian water there with pumps, the latter, in turn, being run by power generated by the waters behind the Nuuanu dam. Such an arrangement would give Honolulu the best of water, filtered on its way from the surface to the deep artesian levels. Given a reliable supply on Punchbowl, procured in the way stated, and the running expenses of the water department would be very low indeed. We are not sure also but that the need of steamers in the fire department could be obviated, the equipment being thereafter confined to automobile hose companies and hydrants.

Prolonged dry weather in climates which are used to moisture, lowers human vitality and brings out one's latent aches and pains. The sickly season at Portland, Oregon, occurs during the two sunny months; but when it rains, as it does much of the time for the other ten months, the average of health is high. Just now Honolulu is passing through a drouth and a multitude of people do not feel up to the mark. There is no apparent rise in the average number of serious cases of sickness, but people generally complain of feeling "run down." Probably a few days of rain, clearing the air of its impalpable dust, freshening the water supply, flushing the storm sewers and giving Honolulu a thorough washing, would brace the population up.

We should like to know the Star's authority for the statement that two regiments of marines are going to be stationed at Pearl Harbor and Honolulu. It seems too good to be true. The Star's statement that such an assignment was the cause of the order of the Navy Department removing marines from ships, is a way of putting the cart before the horse; but a reading of the cablegram about the marine detail shows that the sea-soldiers were detached to guard naval property generally. That Oahu should get one-fifth of the whole force in addition to the army garrison, is a story which requires confirmation.

The news of the sinking of a dam structure at Gatun, on the Panama canal, bears out a story about an underground lake at that point which may largely increase the expense of canal building. The story, which was given out on November 7, said that a lake had been found under the site of one of the proposed big locks at Gatun which would result in a delay of several years in building the canal and a much larger outlay of money than was first anticipated. Colonel Goethal's denial of this report was followed within three weeks by a subsidence of part of the Gatun works.

The European cables in the Coast files show that the feeling against the Kaiser in Germany extends into all classes and that apologists for his personal venture into off-hand diplomacy are few and far between. Even the federated princes are moved to consider a protest; and the proposal to make the sovereign responsible to Parliament has wide acceptance. The humbled attitude of the Emperor shows that the power of public opinion in Germany has stirred his apprehensions.

The rain on the hills and in the valleys yesterday freshened the air of the whole island and made the step of people lighter. No great precipitation was had, but enough rain fell to cure some of the distempers of the drouth and make the back country look more natural. Daily showers of this sort and an incidental drenching of the town, would be a boon indeed.

The hospital ship Relief, which is ashore on Luzon, was here with the battleship fleet. She is the vessel which had the benefit, or otherwise, of President Roosevelt's order assigning a medical man to the command. The appearance of the Relief, while she lay in this port, was that of a floating summer hotel. She looked topeasy to the eye and certainly had a deal of superstructure which could hardly be expected to weather a typhoon.

If any vehicle needs to be an automobile, it is a fire engine.

It ought to be settled, once and for all in these islands, that the conduct of public business shall be open and above board. The star-chamber affronts the rights of the people when it passes on the concerns of the people. In a democracy there is no place whatever for such an institution.

When a man can touch a button on Oahu and have an aerial chat with somebody in Alaska, with Japan butting into the conversation and California complaining wirelessly to a vessel 3000 miles away that the Oahuian is too talkative, there is really nothing left for fairy tales.

A good way to observe Thanksgiving is to pass it around. Something for the Salvation Army and the Susannah Wesley Home would answer. Whatever they get they will pass on also.

If Honolulu wants to make Palace Square a center to be proud of, it has only to wipe off the old wooden buildings and set the acreage out to trees, grass and flowers.

It gave the affair quite a Hawaiian flavor to have Gorham D. Gilman's kos table go down with a steamer named Henry M. Whitney.

The stage is waiting upon Link McCandless for a few appropriate remarks about the latest land deal.

There is one thing certain, if Charley Clark becomes senior captain of police, crime will scout.

Heney's thanksgiving ride in the park must have spoiled Abe Ruef's taste for turkey.

If Austria crosses the Balkan border there is bound to be a complete Tirnova.

Kula has had rain lately and there may now be some chance for Honolulu.

## ROSE MAKES POSSIBLES

The public shooting competitor at the new N. G. H. indoor range yesterday morning and afternoon was a wonderful success. So many shootists were anxious to take part that there was a crowd in front of the building before the doors were opened. Then the scores were kept very busy for several hours until the expert target breakers began to get hungry and melt away for lunch.

The feature of the shooting was the double possible of Major Rose. His first target had four clean bullseyes and one that had just broken the outside edge of the black circle. The judges called it a possible but there was some discussion so, just to show them it was no fluke, Major Rose shot again and this time made a possible that looked as though he had merely put one shot through the center of the target.

Colonel Jones and his aides worked indefatigably all day and there was no hitch of any kind. About one o'clock a messenger boy brought in sandwiches and soda water and the staff took monthfuls between additions of scores and judgments.

The range is just about as modern and ideal a place of its kind as could be imagined. The targets hang from trolleys which are worked by endless ropes leading to pulleys on the front wall of the building. After a score is made the trolley is pulled in and the target removed. Then a clean one is put in its place and sent back to hang in front of an iron plate that stops the bullets.

Five hundred and two scores of five shots each were recorded and 85 of these were shot off in the first hour. The competition opened at 9:30 a. m. and closed at 4:30 p. m. The trolley system worked to perfection and there was not a single hitch or trouble of any kind throughout the day.

The following is the official list of prize winners and scores:

Name	Score
Major Gustav Rose, N. G. H.	25
Capt. M. M. Johnson, N. G. H.	25
D. L. Austin	24
Sgt. D. Lemon, N. G. H.	24
Wyatt Cooper, 20th U. S. Inf.	24
Lt. Pardee, 20th U. S. Inf.	24
Capt. C. Coster, N. G. H.	24
Sgt. B. M. Sumner, N. G. H.	24
Lt. Col. A. Coyne, N. G. H.	24
Maj. W. R. Riley, N. G. H.	24
Maj. A. W. Neely, N. G. H.	24
John Williams	23
M. V. Fernandez	23
Capt. T. P. Cummins, N. G. H.	23
Capt. J. M. Camara, N. G. H.	23
Lt. Col. M. Campbell, N. G. H.	23
Sgt. Thos. Evans, N. G. H.	23
Sgt. Ed. Hopkins, N. G. H.	23
Chas. E. Simons	22
Lt. Col. J. H. Fisher, N. G. H.	22
J. L. McLean	21
Corp. John Stone, N. G. H.	21

Name	Score
Lt. Benard, 20th U. S. Inf.	23
Charles Pringle	23
H. D. Bowen	22
Lt. H. P. O'Sullivan, N. G. H.	22
Capt. F. Angus, N. G. H.	22
L. Mitchell	22
Blackwell	22
P. Schmidt	22
E. S. Singer	22
J. A. Coombs	21
W. H. Charlock	21
E. L. Cheatham	21
Judge Sanford B. Dole	21
Corp. Wm. Huihui, N. G. H.	21
Dr. C. E. Camp	21
Senator H. T. Moore	21
En. Gee	21
E. L. Kruss	21
Dr. M. T. Monsarrat	20
H. Gear	20
Geo. C. Potter	20

The above prizes may be obtained at Hall & Son's from Mr. Harvey today after the hour of 2 p. m. the first man in Class A choosing first, the first man in Class B choosing second, the second man in Class A choosing third, the second man in Class B choosing fourth, and so on alternately. Provided, however, if any competitor has not made a choice before 2 p. m., November 28, 1908, the remaining competitors may proceed to choose their prizes alternately as above set forth, the absent competitor taking next rank in order of choice upon presenting himself.

There were slight showers in town last evening and considerable rain seems to have fallen in the hills and valleys.

## AUTOISTS HAVE NO SPECIAL RIGHTS

The auto fiend who scorchs at forty or fifty miles an hour, and imagines that pedestrians have no rights on the street, is mistaken. Without giving an official opinion on the subject Acting Attorney General Whitney said yesterday that the streets were for the use of the public irrespective of whether they rode, or walked, or whether, if they rode, they rode in autos, carriages, or any other vehicle. Pedestrians had as much right in the streets as autoists, and the latter have no right to so use the roads or streets as to interfere with the safe use of them by pedestrians.

Deputy Attorney General Sutton coincided fully in this opinion. Pedestrians may cross the street at any point convenient to themselves, and women are not legally obliged to gather up their skirts and run, every time they cross a street merely to keep out of the way of some reckless autoist.

## BOY BURGLAR MADE A FULL CONFESSION

Charley Mersberg, a fourteen-year-old youth, was arrested yesterday morning by Detective Luahiwa and will be charged this morning with burglary. Mersberg has confessed to a series of shop-breakings, once at the office of the Territorial Messenger Service, some days ago, when he stole two boxes of cigars; once into a carpenter shop nearby, where he secured a chisel, on Wednesday night, and once again the same night into the Messenger Service office, where he rifled the office desk, breaking into it by means of the chisel, and stealing ten dollars. Manuel Peter of the Messenger Service suspected Mersberg as soon as he found his desk pried open yesterday morning, and chased out after the boy. Mersberg denied all knowledge of the affair, but changed his tune when Mr. Peter telephoned from his office for the police. He confessed to the job and handed back seven dollars, what he had left of the ten. In his confession he implicated another boy, but further investigation shows that he alone turned the tricks.

On account of his youth he will probably be sent to the Reform School.

## Their First Thanksgiving.

The only ship in port which was decorated yesterday was the Scottish ship Edinburgh. The captain, Donald Mackenzie, got the Thanksgiving fever, never having been exposed to it before. He and his crew were invited by Mr. Elijah Mackenzie to attend the service at Central Union church and they went in a body. The crew included six apprentices. After service the visitors were entertained at the Waikiki Inn, as guests of Mr. Mackenzie. A fine dinner was served, during which the host told the story of the Pilgrims and the beginning of the observance. In the evening the captain was entertained at a quiet family dinner by friends on Anapuni street. Mr. Mackenzie heard of the coming of the Edinburgh through a stray copy of the Free Press, which announced her departure from the Firth of Forth and has been on the lookout for the vessel since.

used to be the Rainbow A. C., celebrated their winning of the Atkinson League championship last year with a grand luncheon at noon yesterday. Charlie Makani acted as toastmaster, and Miss Ina Keilana filled the silver cup before it was handed round. The feast was held on South street in Kakaako, and the aggregation of ball-tossers will have another celebration tonight with a dance.